



APEJECM

ASSOCIAÇÃO DE PLANTAS E JARDINS EM CLIMAS MEDITERRÂNICOS
Mediterranean Gardening Association – Portugal

including

THE MEDITERRANEAN GARDEN SOCIETY

Portugal Branch - Members & Friends



Newsletter No 5

July 2015

www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org

www.gardeninginportugal.com

Member of www.mediterraneangardeninginternational.org

Facebook page/[Mediterranean Gardeners – Portugal](#)

Welcome to members and friends in Portugal with an interest in Mediterranean Gardening. If you know of any others who may be interested in Mediterranean gardening please pass this along to them and remember all are welcome to attend our events.

Bem-vindo aos membros e amigos em Portugal com interesse no Jardimagem Mediterrâneo. Se souber de alguém que esteja interessado em jardinagem mediterrânica agradecemos que passa a palavra, ou o favor de dar um destes boletins informativos, e não esquecer que todos estão convidados a participar nos eventos por nós organizados.

2015/6	EVENTS	Info
ROMAN EMPIRE VILLAS & THE RENAISSANCE 2 – 9 Sept. 2015	AAJBA Trip to Italy Cultural journey to visit Venice, Padua, Florence, Rome & Pompei.	Led by Garden Historian, Sonia Azambuja, taking in the major gardens and villas from Imperial Rome to the Renaissance. More details www.aajba.com/Viagens/2015.aspx
3 rd to 6 th September Tavira	Feira da Dieta Mediterrânica Riverside, old market & castle gardens, Tavira	MGAP display garden in castle, Books, seed sales and advice point. Helpers Needed !
Friday 16 th October 10.30 – 15.00	Propagation Workshop with Plants, Seeds, Cuttings Swap	At Quinta da Figueirinha, refreshments available and all welcome.
Saturday 7 th November 2015	Mediterranean Garden Fair Estoi, Algarve	Advance Notice of the date for our major annual fund raising event. Helpers Needed !
Wednesday 2 nd December	Christmas Social & Lunch Native Plants in Table Decorations	<u>Tasquinho do Lagar, Querença</u> Our AGM venue and great food available at reasonable costs.
Mid -March 2016	Spring Plant Fair Date to be confirmed	Quinta da Figueirinha, Silves Bigger and Better !
19 to 22 April 2016	Pre Conference tour in Sintra and Lisbon	Based in Sintra, visits to historic and private gardens with guides. Places limited
EARLY NOTICE 22 to 25 April 2016 Date now confirmed	International Spring Conference 2016 dedicated to the natural landscapes and native plants around the Mediterranean	Olivier Filippi visit to Algarve With Talk on "Dry gardening: a new inspiration for gardeners in the Mediterranean region" Saturday April 23 rd

Message from Burford Hurry, President - Mediterranean Gardening Association of Portugal



Suddenly it's seriously summer and the heat is with us. The carobs are shedding their leaves, soon their beans will be hard and brittle and ready to pick, as will the almonds.

It is certainly very hot. Reminding us, in case we might have forgotten, that our gardens should be planted with plants that can either survive the heat without much water or have water provided. That is not easy to remember in early spring when with the rains everything seems to be bursting effortlessly into leaf and flower and nurseries are also bursting with attractive plants and shrubs.

Fortunately as far as water for our summer gardens is concerned we still have that but it is worth reminding ourselves that our Californian cousins are in a more precarious position than we are. Over the last few winters their Mediterranean climate has provided them with precious little winter rainfall and dams are almost empty, as a result they have to rethink policies on the type of gardens, lawns and pools and irrigation. The recent heavy rains have caused other problems with erosion and flooding on hard packed land.

In some respects we are ahead of them. There is a growing awareness here of the need to use water frugally and to plant accordingly which in turn means an increasing interest in succulents and other drought hardy plants. Lawns are being replaced with alternative plantings of shrubs and small bushes and pebbles or gravel. In addition apart from golf courses we do not have the huge agricultural or industrial demands that California has.

Summer means, of course, that just ahead of us lies autumn and another year of planting and growing. The Association has ambitious plans for the year ahead but we are experiencing some growing pains – we are short of bodies to help us plan and organise the events in the coming year.

We need **you** to help the Association grow. Could we ask you to volunteer your services in whatever capacity you think you might best serve? –such as organising events, selling plants at our plant fairs, research ? Yes, it means some 'work' but it can also mean fun, creating and developing a sustainable and exciting Association. You won't be alone as you will be joining an experienced team of fellow enthusiasts. So please think about it and then act by contacting Moira Thomson , (mgapsec@btinternet.com) our new Secretary.

Burford Hurry

P.S. there has been an article recently that said that new builds and refurbished properties will be limited to a lawn area of maximum 25% of total garden area in California by law. Many people want lawns in hot dry countries and more should be done to educate property owners and contractors in how best to manage this. If attention is given to using suitable strains of grass seed and sensible irrigation practices, most people could cut their water use dramatically and still retain an area of lawn.

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**MEMBERSHIP SURVEY 2015** It is important to keep in touch with our members, and as a new Association it is vital to have your views and ideas for future direction of events, funds and projects. Attached to this newsletter email is our 2015 membership survey and it would be extremely useful if you could take some time to complete any or all of the sections. The key volunteers involved in the hard work of running the day to day activities are looking forward to hearing from you all. If you would like this sent in another format or through the post please let [rob@thebtf.net](mailto:rob@thebtf.net) know. All returned surveys should also be sent to this email address. **Thank You !**

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MEDITERRANEAN GARDEN FAIR – Saturday, November 7th 2015 11.00 to 17.00

Estoi Palace Hotel, lower historic gardens & car parking on the market place in Estoi with a repeat of the free shuttle bus service & plant crèche

Entry Cost for 2015 will be two euros per person, children under 16 free entry. This will be the seventh year for our annual gardening feast of delights, and thanks to everyone who has supported this event over those years. Without the valuable time and patience of our marvellous

band of volunteer helpers we could not stage this event. This is our main fund raising effort for the year and gives us the opportunity to support our learning initiatives, student visits and the events held throughout the rest of the year, such as the Spring Conferences.

For 2015 we have a wonderful new nursery attending from France, La Roseraie du Désert owned and run by John & Becky Hook. They will bring their special range of roses specially recommended for Mediterranean gardens. You can see more about them here www.frenchtearose.com They will accept pre-orders for delivery at the Garden Fair and the full list and description of roses offered and recommended for Portugal is available on request.

If you want some help choosing roses suitable for Mediterranean Gardens then you can see and listen to the excellent illustrated lecture given by Charles Quest Ritson to the UK Mediterranean Plants & Gardens group in January this year, and available on our web site via this link

http://www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org/charlesquest_ritson.html

All the plant nurseries invited will be chosen to provide us with the robust and adapted plants we need for our gardens here, with a range of plants from succulents to trees and shrubs. We will also offer some bulbs and native plant seeds on our own sales table, again specially selected for their suitability for our gardens.

As a departure from our usual timetable, we will have an informal panel of experts available all day in the talks room. They will be happy to try and answer your questions, on several topics and in several languages !, throughout the day. Bring photos, plant specimens and problems and we can provide some moral support, if not a definitive answer, straight away !

IF you plan to attend the Garden Fair and can offer an hour or two of your time to help on the day, and there are sitting down jobs available, then please tell Rosie at rosie@thebtf.net and

THANK YOU !

BULB ORDERS for collection at the Garden Fair on Saturday November 7th News from Bulb´Argence “ *This year we will change to growing less collection bulbs .This summer you will have the opportunity to buy a great number of wonderful species at very reduced prices. Don't hesitate to consult our promotional offers now.*

At the moment we are busy bringing in the crops before the summer heat sets in. Shipping will start early July. First served will be those orders placed since early this year. These clients will also benefit from our current promotional prices. Plant your bulbs as soon as received, but do not water until early September (unless nature decides otherwise).”

There are plans to have bulbs from Bulb´ Argence in south west France delivered to us in time for our garden fair. You can see a full selection available from this specialist Mediterranean bulb nursery on www.bulbargence.com It will be cost effective to make a joint order for one delivery. Bulb and Transport costs can be confirmed when we know amounts. Your order will not be placed without checking costs with you first.

If you would like to order any bulbs from this list then please contact Rosie rosie@thebtf.net for more information or to place your order **by AUGUST 10TH at the VERY latest.**

There is also a full colour 96 page [Guide pour bulbes Méditerranéens](#) book available in French which can ordered at the same time for 8 euros per copy.

Recommended for Algarve Gardens and on promotion with Bulb´Argence.

Allium amethystinum

Allium neapolitanum

Amaryllis belladonna

Crocus goulimyi

Ipheion uniflorum mixture

Iris unguicularis

Narcissus bulbocodium

Narcissus trianus thalia

Scilla peruviana

Sternbergia lutea

Tulipa sylvestris

Veltheimia bracteata (red)

Veltheimia bracteata (yellow)

Narcissus paperwhite

Narcissus jonquilla

PLANT LABELS & SEED PACKETS are not easy to find in quality and quantity here. Following some investigation we have ordered a bulk delivery of long life white plastic plant labels that can be written on with a pencil or permanent pen and also used for self adhesive tape printed labels. They are tested in Estepona, Spain for sun resistance and come in sheets for specialist straight through computer printers, if you happen to have one !

There will be two designs, a pot label to insert into the compost and a loop label to be threaded round a woody stem. We hope this will encourage you to label your plants and to collect seeds.

Pot labels white matt plastic 25 X 115 mm 24 labels on 3 sheets - cost €1.50

Loop labels white matt plastic 19 X 210mm 14 labels per sheet – cost €1.00 per sheet

SEED PACKETS have also been ordered in two sizes, they are the glassex paper type and suitable for long term storage of your cleaned and dry seed.

73mm x 41mm 10 packets for €1.25

98mm x 64mm 10 packets for €1.50

All these will be available at the Garden Fair on the MGAP book stall and to pre-order large quantities please contact rosie@thebtf.net

Propagation Workshop with *Plants, Seeds, Cuttings Swap*

Friday 16th October 10.30 – 15.00 at Quinta da Figueirinha, Silves www.qdf.pt

As we will not be having our own plant stall at the Garden Fair in November, there will be a special day dedicated to our own plants, seeds and cuttings together with a workshop on Propagation. We hope to include grafting as well as growing from seeds and cuttings.

This will be your day to bring along your own plants and swap or buy from those available. Please book your place with rosie@thebtf.net so that we have an estimate of numbers.

NEWS of an English edition of *Alternatives au Gazon*, the second book by **Olivier Filippi** and this time on **Lawn Alternatives**. This is currently being translated from the original French and is scheduled for publishing early in 2016. We have been in contact with the publisher to order copies in time for our International Spring Conference when Olivier Filippi will be present and able to sign them for you. Please let us know if you are interested in purchasing a copy of this special book so that we can estimate numbers for our order. Costs will be confirmed nearer to publication.

NEWS of the Mediterranean Gardening International online portal. The Western Australia Mediterranean Gardening group based around Margaret River has become the latest group to have their information on the MGi pages. They evolved to encourage gardeners of their region to have the chance to share knowledge, friendship and learn how to best cope with the local climatic conditions for our Mediterranean climate. MGi members visiting this beautiful corner of Western Australia are welcome to contact Julie Kinney for advice on gardens to visit via their page on the following link.

The Cape Horticultural Society was contacted by our esteemed President and they have also recently agreed that their contact details and web site link can be added to the MGi pages. They will be very happy to help anyone planning a visit to South Africa and welcome enquiries about visiting members gardens.

You will also see details of trips and events organized by our sister organizations in France and the UK together with details of gardens open and articles on plants and gardening in their regions. MGAP members in Portugal are invited to participate.

There is an **international plant and gardening forum** being developed which will be made available to all members of these groups, if you wish to take part in the forum please contact info@mediterraneangardeningportugal.org for further details.

www.mediterraneangardeninginternational.org for more information

International Spring Conference in the Western Algarve, Portugal

Dry Gardens in the Mediterranean

“an undiscovered diversity”

EARLY NOTICE 22/23/24 April 2016 Confirmed talk by Olivier Filippi
The conference will be based in Lagos.

Olivier and Clara Filippi have now confirmed that they will come to the Algarve in April 2016 and Olivier has very kindly offered to give us a talk at that time. His current research is focussed on the plants and landscapes of the garrigue around the Mediterranean. It will be a great pleasure to welcome them both to Portugal. We have started our planning for a special weekend in April 2016 based in Lagos on the Western Algarve.

A long weekend from Friday 22 to Monday 25 April with **Olivier Filippi** as the keynote speaker on “*Dry gardening: a new inspiration for gardeners in the Mediterranean region*”.

There will be further informative talks, guided wildflower walks, private garden visits and relevant plants and books for sale. Accommodation will be conveniently located for access to the rich Mediterranean flora of the Algarve region of southern Portugal, including the Cape St. Vincent Peninsula National Park, an area of immense botanical importance with numerous endemic and rare species. The area is also famous for birdwatching and the Sagres Peninsula and Cabo da São Vicente can be particularly rewarding.

Your participation in the preliminary organising for this special weekend would be very welcome, if you know of good value affordable accommodation, gardens, plant nurseries or good places to view wildflowers at that time of year then please let us know.
info@mediterraneangardeningportugal.org

Members of all Mediterranean garden groups in MGa and the Mediterranean Garden Society will be invited to join us for this event.

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**Pre-conference tour based in Sintra, 19<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> April** two full days of garden visits with guides, includes travel to Algarve for main conference weekend.  
Historic gardens and private gardens, places limited, details from [rosie@thebtf.net](mailto:rosie@thebtf.net)

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Feira da Dieta Mediterranica – Tavira 3 to 6 September

This year the fair will take place in the riverside gardens, through the old town and up into the square near to the castle. There will be crafts, entertainment and, of course, food !

MGAP have been asked to participate by helping with a Mediterranean garden in the grounds of Tavira castle. **Marilyn Medina Ribeiro** is designing small themed gardens based on aromatic and drought tolerant plants, there will be an outside sales area for our books and seeds from Sementes de Portugal together with space for small workshops and presentations. This event gives us a great opportunity to promote the Association, recruit members and publicise our events.

If you can offer some help selling books and seeds, or just talking about what we do, during the weekend then please contact info@mediterraneangardeningportugal.org

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Associação dos Amigos do Jardim Botânico da Ajuda -Trip to Italy September 2015

**SPECIAL OFFER FOR MEMBERS OF MGAP** – all trips are offered at the same special discounted price as for AAJBA members.

*These trips help to pay for much needed repair and maintenance work at the gardens.*



*Previous work supported by the Amigos includes complete relaying of the main paths to make them suitable for wheelchairs and prams.*

ITÁLIA VILAS DO IMPÉRIO ROMANO AO RENASCIMENTO 2 to 9 September 2015  
PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE

Cultural journey to visit Venice, Padua, Florence, Rome. Led by AAJBA President & Garden Historian, **Sonia Azambuja**, taking in the major gardens and villas of the era. A wonderful opportunity to visit some of the iconic villas and gardens such as Pitti Palace, Boboli Gardens, Uffizi Gallery, Medici Villa, Villa D'Este and Tivoli as well as some secret gardens of Padua.

Full details [www.aajba.com/Viagens/2015.aspx](http://www.aajba.com/Viagens/2015.aspx) and/or contact **as soon as possible** [info@aajba.com](mailto:info@aajba.com)

**History, Monuments and Landscapes of the Kingdom of Jordan** - 28 OCTOBER to 2 NOVEMBER 2015 - História, Monumentos e Paisagens do Reino da Jordânia - 28 DE OUTUBRO A 2 DE NOVEMBRO DE 2015 - Full details and itinerary on [www.aajba.com/Viagens.aspx](http://www.aajba.com/Viagens.aspx)

**A Natureza em Josefa de Óbidos - Nature in the paintings of Josefa de Obidos**  
September 3, 2015 - Lecture by Sonia Talhé Azambuja, University lecturer in Landscape Architecture and History of Art (ISA / ULisboa and FCT / UAlg)

11h00 -12h30 - Visit to Josefa de Obidos exhibition at the Museu Nacional de Arte Antiga  
13:00 - lunch / lecture at the Royal Conservatory Restaurant in the Ajuda Botanical Garden

3 de Setembro de 2015 (5.ªf.) - Palestra da Arq.ª Pais. Sónia Talhé Azambuja  
11h00 -12h30 – Visita à exposição Josefa de Óbidos e a Invenção do Barroco Português do orientada pela Arq.ª Pais. Sónia Talhé Azambuja, docente universitária de Arquitectura Paisagista e História da Arte (ISA/ULisboa e FCT/UAlg)  
13h00 – almoço/palestra no Restaurante Estufa Real (Tenda) no Jardim Botânico da Ajuda  
Full programme and bookings - Informações e Reservas:

Associação dos Amigos do Jardim Botânico da Ajuda  
AAJBA, Botânico da Ajuda, Calçada da Ajuda, 1300-011 Lisboa  
Tel. 213 620 527 Telm. 915 297 903 e-mail: [info@aajba.com](mailto:info@aajba.com) web: [www.aajba.com](http://www.aajba.com)  
Apoio: Restaurante Estufa Real: Jardim Botânico da Ajuda, Calçada do Galvão, 1400 Lisboa

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Seed Exchange Chantal Guiraud, of Mediterranean Gardening France, maintains a collection of over 400 varieties of seeds at her home in Montpellier. Members of associations which have joined the Mediterranean Gardening International community are welcome to contribute and to order seeds from the list, which is updated twice each year. September is particularly recommended for the sowing of Mediterranean plants so now is a good time to have a look and order your seeds.

The full list, together with information about how to collect and send seeds to Chantal, and how to order them, is on the www.mediterraneangardeningfrance.org website via the Information button on the menu. When contributing or ordering seed please ensure you include the name of the gardening association to which you belong. To make the seed list easy to use, it is illustrated with plant photographs taken by members. You'll notice that not all entries have an illustration and the website editor, Christine Savage, would be grateful to receive photographs to fill the gaps. Please send these to Christine at cs.savage@btopenworld.com.

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**Conference Report and photo galleries** for SPRING CONFERENCE 2015 on *The Portuguese Garden* including the private garden visits now available online via front page of the web site. There is a full report of the conference and also descriptions of the gardens visited on the optional days.

The talks given at the conference are now also available online via the link on the front page of our web site. [www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org](http://www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org)

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## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 25 March 2015**

Thanks to our President, Burford Hurry, we were very pleased to be able to welcome thirty members and their guests to the lovely location of Querença in the hills above Loule on the Algarve. The business meeting took place in the Tasquina do Lagar and we then had the talk in the nearby auditorium of the Foundation Viegas Guerreiro. The restaurant then also provided us with a splendid lunch before our afternoon wildflower walk at the special reserve of Fonte de Benemola nearby. We were lucky to have Marilyn Medina Ribeiro, Sue Parker and Pat O'Reilly with us as guides on the day as well as our knowledgeable speaker, John Fielding.

The Minutes of the AGM are available on request from [Rosie@thebtf.net](mailto:Rosie@thebtf.net) for all members.

***Wonderful Wildflowers of the Algarve*** is the latest talk to go online. This was given at our AGM in Querença. In the talk, John demonstrates the similarities and differences between west and eastern Mediterranean using the Algarve flora as a theme. A plant list is available on our web site.

**John Fielding** is a Royal Botanic Gardens Kew trained professional horticulturalist, photographer, author, garden designer and plant breeder. He gave a talk on Mediterranean Bulbs at our 2013 Spring Conference and is the joint author of the acclaimed *Flowers of Crete*. He cultivates a large range of plants in his private collection, especially Mediterranean species. John is on two Committees of the Royal Horticultural Society, Herbaceous Plants and Photography. His web site is [www.jfimages.co.uk](http://www.jfimages.co.uk)

<http://www.flora-on.pt> Sociedade Portuguesa de Botânica, an online Flora of Portugal

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## **Professional Gardeners Guild group visit – 28th March – 4th April 2015**

Following the contact with John Humphris of the Professional Gardeners Guild [www.pgg.org.uk](http://www.pgg.org.uk) through Gerald Luckhurst, the opportunity for five trainees to visit the Algarve was offered and enthusiastically taken up by this year's group. Their first week was spent working at Monserrate Park in Sintra, a regular annual visit from PGG trainees. The chance to see gardens and wildflowers in the Algarve was a new addition to the programme and we are pleased to say that the major part of the funding for this was provided by The Merlin Trust – a UK based horticultural charity. [www.merlin-trust.org.uk](http://www.merlin-trust.org.uk)

A programme was organised for the five trainees and accommodation provided at Quinta de Figueirinha near Silves. Rosie Peddle took the group on visits for the first three days and Marilyn Medina Ribeiro for two days. We are very grateful to the garden owners who agreed to allow the group to visit and learn about gardens here from their valuable experience. A full report from one of the trainees is available on request from [rosie@thebtf.net](mailto:rosie@thebtf.net) and we hope to repeat this with another group during 2016. The five young people who visited the Algarve are all in full time work placements with gardens in the UK such as Chatsworth, Welsh Botanic Garden, Savill & Valley Gardens and Waddesdon Manor.

Full Programme is below as detailed in her report by Becky Cross, one of the trainees.

**Saturday 28th March** train from Lisbon to Algarve, arrived at Quinta da Figueirinha for welcome and introduction by Dr. Gerhard Zabel which was followed by a tour of the Quinta.

**Sunday 29th March** Rosie came to the Quinta to welcome us and give us a schedule of what we would be doing for the rest of the week. A presentation was held in the evening about Soils and Gardening in the Algarve.

**Monday 30th March** Guided wildflower walks with Rosie, to Rocha da Pena. Visit to cork oak forests and ancient trees.

**Tuesday 31st March** Garden visits to the home of Rosie and Rob Peddle, more work on plant identification and visit to the natural park Ria Formosa. Visits to more ancient trees as well.

**Wednesday 1st April** Garden visits with Rosie to three different gardens as well as one nursery, the Natura Garden Centre, all in Almancil.

**Thursday 2nd April** Work experience day with Marilyn Medina Ribeiro, on the new botanical garden project at Quinta da Figueirinha. Plant identification and mapping.

**Friday 3rd April** Garden visits with Marilyn Medina Ribeiro.

**Saturday 4th April** Visit to Cape St. Vincent before flight back home to the UK.

If you are interested in helping with this annual visit then please let Rosie know. We hope to extend this for students and trainees in Portugal but again, we need your help establishing contacts with the relevant organisations.

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Neem Oil Offer from Susan Wassenaar - "we were in Faro and got neem oil at Mat Diver, an amazing store on the N2 between Faro and Sao Bras ! There was only an enormous bottle in stock, the enormity hit us this morning when we sprayed half a liter of water with 1/4 tsp of oil to the branches and leaves. So if you have other friends with pests and planty enemies whom we could supply with some of the oil from our litre container, we will be happy to share with anyone near on the Algarve."

Otto en Susan Wassenaar [farrwass@me.com]

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**Regional Contacts:**

**Lisbon area** – Ben Weijers, Tel: 219 291 841

Email: [quintadocorvo@yahoo.com](mailto:quintadocorvo@yahoo.com)

**Beira area** – Marion ter Horst, Tel: 235 721 193

Email: [arnold.terhorst@gmail.com](mailto:arnold.terhorst@gmail.com)

**Algarve area** - Rosie Peddle, Tel. 289 791 869

Email: [rosie@thebtf.net](mailto:rosie@thebtf.net)

**Minho area** – Chloe Parrott Tel. 966 971 275

Email: [chloe@meo.pt](mailto:chloe@meo.pt)

Contact and Newsletter Compiler: Rosie Peddle, Quinta das Sesmarias 275-M, Fornalha, Moncarapacho, OLHÃO 8700-091 Tel. & Email as above. Newsletter contributions welcome.

**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

We have a friendly and informal group for everyone who has a special interest in the plants and gardens of Mediterranean climates. The aims of MGAP (Mediterranean Gardening Association Portugal) include education and encouraging the exchange of information and of experiences.

The web site at [www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org](http://www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org) contains articles on diverse aspects of mediterranean gardening as well as news, notices, practical information and comment. All information is normally distributed via email but can also be posted on request. Please pass on this newsletter to anyone interested.

Post your plant, garden pics or queries here

<https://www.facebook.com/MedGardenersPortugal?fref=ts>

If you no longer wish to receive these newsletters then please do let me know by sending a return email with **REMOVE** in the subject line to [info@mediterraneangardeningportugal.org](mailto:info@mediterraneangardeningportugal.org)

Further information about the Mediterranean Garden Society can be found on the main web site [www.mediterraneangardensociety.org](http://www.mediterraneangardensociety.org) All MGS members in Portugal are welcome to take part in our events and are included in all mailings.